

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 5482

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), AF

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: KABUL 5467

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF THE JOINT STATEMENT WE SUGGEST BE USED FOR SECRETARY'S AUGUST 8 VISIT TO KABUL. GRATEFUL FOR DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT WE CAN CONSULT WITH AFGHAN SIDE.

2. QUOTE. UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER PAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN ON AUGUST 8, 1976, AT THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN. DURING HIS STAY HE WAS RECEIVED BY THE HEAD OF STATE AND PRIME MINISTER, MR. MOHAMMAD DAOUD, AND WAS MR. DAOUD'S GUEST AT A LUNCHEON IN HIS HONOR. DR. KISSINGER ALSO MET WITH MR. MOHAMMAD NAIM, WHO VISITED THE UNITED STATES IN LATE JUNE AS THE HEAD OF STATE'S SPECIAL ENVOY, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER WAHEED ABDULLAH AND OTHER AFGHAN LEADERS. THE TWO SIDES CONDUCTED FRANK DISCUSSIONS ON A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES IN THE FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE THAT CHARACTERIZES U.S./AFGHAN RELATIONS. BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT THE IMPROVING PROSPECTS FOR STABILITY AND MUTUAL COOPERATION AMONG THE NATIONS OF THIS REGION OF THE WORLD, AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE EXPRESSED ADMIRATION FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN AND ITS NEIGHBORS IN THIS REGARD. THE TWO SIDES JOINED IN EXPRESSING THE MUTUAL INTERESTS OF BOTH NATIONS IN SECURING A
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PEACEFUL, STABLE AND COOPERATIVE WORLD.

AFGHAN LEADERS DESCRIBED THEIR COUNTRY'S LONGSTANDING INTEREST AND PARTICIPATION IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND EXPRESSED HOPE FOR A WIDELY BENEFICIAL OUTCOME OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT SUMMIT CONFERENCE TO TAKE PLACE IN COLOMBO IN MID-AUGUST. SECRETARY KISSINGER RELATED HIS AWARENESS OF AFGHANISTAN'S IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION IN THIS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORUMS, AND JOINED THE AFGHAN LEADERS' HOPE FOR A CONFERENCE WHICH WOULD MAKE PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVING PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO SOME OF THE WORLD'S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. THE SECRETARY INFORMED AFGHAN LEADERS OF HIS VIEWS CONCERNING MULTILATERAL QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE TO THE UNITED STATES, AND TOGETHER THE TWO SIDES DISCUSSED THESE ISSUES AS THEY MAY BE RAISED IN THE FORTHCOMING SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATED COMMITTEES.

IN EXPRESSING HIS APPRECIATION FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT AFGHANISTAN ONCE AGAIN, THE SECRETARY AFFIRMED HIS ADMIRATION FOR THE PROGRESS BEING MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN. THE AMERICAN SIDE REITERATED ITS CONTINUING INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING CLOSELY IN AFGHANISTAN'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY IN THE HELMAND VALLEY, IN RURAL WORKS, IN RURAL EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH PROGRAMS AND IN KABUL UNIVERSITY. THE AFGHAN SIDE EXPRESSED ITS PLEASURE AT CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD THESE ENDS WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE AND ARE BEING MADE BY THE UNITED STATES IN AFGHANISTAN THROUGH BILATERAL ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL AND EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION.

BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT THE WARM AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THEIR GOVERNMENTS. SECRETARY KISSINGER CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT DAUD FRIENDLY PERSONAL WISHES FROM PRESIDENT FORD. UNQUOTE. ELIOT

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